

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 112089

42

ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY IO:WBBUFFUM:BDF

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 112089

NODIS

E.O. 11652: ADS--DECLAS JUNE 1, 1975

TAGS: PFOR, TH, US

SUBJECT: CAMBODIAN SEIZURE OF THE S.S. MAYAGUEZ

CONFIRMING BUFFUM-BENNETT TELCON:

1. PLEASE DELIVER IMMEDIATELY THE FOLLOWING DRAFT LETTER TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL OVER YOUR SIGNATURE. YOU ARE FURTHER INSTRUCTED TO RELEASE THE TEXT OF THE LETTER 30 MINUTES AFTER YOU HAVE DELIVERED IT. WE INTEND TO MAKE IT AVAILABLE SIMULTANEOUSLY TO THE PRESS HERE AS WELL.

2. LETTER TO SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM. QUOTE: DEAR MR. SECRETARY GENERAL:

THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WISHES TO DRAW URGENTLY TO YOUR ATTENTION THE THREAT TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE WHICH HAS BEEN POSED BY THE ILLEGAL AND UNPROVOKED SEIZURE BY CAMBODIAN AUTHORITIES OF THE U.S. MERCHANT VESSEL "MAYAGUEZ" IN INTER-SECRET

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NATIONAL WATERS.

THIS UNARMED MERCHANT SHIP HAS A CREW OF ABOUT 40 AMERICAN CITIZENS.

AS YOU ARE NO DOUBT AWARE, MY GOVERNMENT HAS ALREADY INITIATED CERTAIN STEPS THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS, INSISTING ON IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF THE VESSEL AND CREW. WE ALSO REQUEST YOU TO TAKE ANY STEPS WITHIN YOUR ABILITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THIS OBJECTIVE.

IN THE ABSENCE OF A POSITIVE RESPONSE TO OUR APPEALS THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS FOR EARLY ACTION BY THE CAMBODIAN AUTHORITIES, MY GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO TAKE SUCH MEASURES AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO PROTECT THE LIVES OF AMERICAN CITIZENS AND PROPERTY, INCLUDING APPROPRIATE MEASURES OF SELF-DEFENSE UNDER ARTICLE 51 OF THE UN CHARTER. END QUOTE. SIGNED SCALI. KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

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